We Claim

1. An apparatus for raising a sample of liquid from a lower level to a higher level, the apparatus comprising a pair of tubes extending alongside each other, for extending from the higher level to the lower level, linked by a connector at their lower end, a valve communicating between the inside and outside of one of the tubes near its lower end, a pig insertable into one of the tubes at the upper end, and means at the upper end to adjust the pressure in each tube.

2. An apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein the pig is of generally cylindrical shape.

3. An apparatus as claimed in claim 2 wherein the pig comprises a cylindrical block of a dense plastic foam, and end plates of a flexible polymeric material.

4. An apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein the valve communicating between the inside and outside of the said one of the tubes is a non-return valve.

5. A method for raising a sample of liquid from a lower level to a higher level, using an apparatus comprising a pair of tubes extending alongside each other, linked by a connector at one end, a valve communicating between the inside and outside of one of the tubes near the one end, a pig insertable into one of the tubes at the other end, and means at the said other end to adjust the pressure in each tube, the method comprising the steps of arranging the tubes so that the connector is at the lower level, inserting a pig into one of the tubes, adjusting the pressures so the pig moves to the end of the tubes adjacent to the connector, causing liquid to enter the tube through the valve, and then adjusting the pressures

so the pig pushes the liquid that has entered the tube to the other end of the tube.

6. A method as claimed in claim 5 in which the valve communicating between the inside and outside of the said one of the tubes is a non-return valve, and the liquid is caused to enter the tube through the valve by decreasing the pressure in the tube.

7. A method as claimed in claim 5 in which the pressure is adjusted using a source of compressed gas and a jet pump.